

Message Text

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ORIGIN EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /013 R

66608

DRAFTED BY: EUR: JHROUSE: LJPLL

APPROVED BY: EUR: JHROUSE

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O 241842Z APR 75

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY ATHENS IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 094688

FOLL REPEAT NATO 2243 ACTION SECSTATE INFO ANKARA 23 APRIL 75:

QUOTE

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, NATO, NAC, OCON

SUBJ: ORGANIZATION OF NATO SUMMIT

REF: STATE 092145

1. THE NAC DEBATTED AT LENGTH APRIL 23 ISSUES RELATED TO ORGANIZATIONAL ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE NATO SUMMIT. FOLLOWING SUMMARY OF KEY POINTS IS BASED ON OUTLINE OF TOPICS PROVIDED REFTEL AND INCLUDES RECOMMENDATIONS TO ASSIST DEPARTMENT IN DEVELOPING FURTHER GUIDANCE LOOKING TOWARD BUILDING EARLY ALLIED CONSENSUS ON GENERAL FORMAT FOR SUMMIT.

2. ON SCENARIO:

(A) TIMEFRAME: ALLIES ARE STILL FARTHER APART ON THIS THAN ANY OTHER ISSUE. A NUMBER CONTINUE GENERALLY TO FAVOR A SUMMIT WHOSE SUBSTANTIVE WORK WOULD TAKE PLACE ENTIRELY ON MAY 30, POSSIBLY WITH OPENING CEREMONIES AND THE BELGIAN KING'S DINNER THE PREVIOUS EVENING. THERE WAS NO SUPPORT FOR A SUMMIT TO BEGIN WITH CHIEFS OF STATE/HEADS OF GOVERNMENT
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(HEREAFTER CALLED "PRINCIPALS") PRESENT THE MORNING OF THE

29TH. THE ONLY CONCESSION THE ALLIES SEEMED PREPARED TO MAKE IN THIS DIRECTION WAS IN FAVOR OF FOREIGN MINISTERS MEETING ALONE THE MORNING OF THE 29, TO DEAL WITH "MORE ROUTINE" BUSINESS -- THOUGH PERMREPS COULD NOT AGREE WHICH PARTS OF THE AGENDA MIGHT BE DISCUSSED BY FOREIGN MINISTERS ALONE AND WHICH PARTS WOULD BE RESERVED FOR PRINCIPALS. SUGGESTING LACK OF FIRM GUIDANCE, A NUMBER OF ALLIES EXPRESSED PREFERENCES, BUT INDICATED THEY WERE FLEXIBLE AND WILLING TO ACCEDE TO GENERAL WISHES OF OTHERS. ON THE OTHER HAND, DE ROSE (FRANCE) DID NOT BELIEVE THE SUMMIT COULD COMPLETE ITS BUSINESS IN JUST ONE DAY AND FAVORED A ONE AND ONE-HALF DAY MEETING, BUT BEGINNING IN THEAFTERNOON OF THE 29TH, NOT THE MORNING. CLEARLY THERE IS ALSO VERY STRONG FRG AND UK RESISTANCE TO THEIR PRINCIPALS BEING ASKED TO BE AVAILABLE ANY EARLIER THAN NOON ON THE 29TH. RECOMMENDATION: I BELIEVE IT DESIRABLE FOR THE DEPARTMENT TO CONSIDER REVERSING SUGGESTED PROGRAM REFTEL FOR MAY 29, IN ORDER TO LEAVE OPEN MORNING FOR BILATERALS, WITH MULTILATERAL SUMMIT ACTIVITIES BEGINNING IN THE EARLY AFTERNOON. FURTHER MULTILATERAL ACTIVITIES WOULD CONTINUE MAY 30. BASED ON SOUNDINGS HERE, THIS WILL LIKELY MEET WITH EARLY FAVOR AMONG MAJORITY, THUS SETTING STAGE FOR FURTHER DETAILED DISCUSSIONS OF PROGRAM.

(B) ORDER OF EVENTS: THERE WAS GENERAL AGREEMENT THAT FORMAL OPENING CEREMONIES -- INCLUDING PRESS PHOTOGRAPHY AND INTRODUCTORY STATEMENTS BY THE SYG, THE GREEK HONORARY CHAIRMAN AND THE BELGIAN HOST -- SHOULD BE THE FIRST ORDER OF SUMMIT EVENTS, AND THAT THESE SHOULD TAKE PLACE ON THURSDAY AFTERNOON. FURTHER, ALL ALLIES AGREED THAT THE MAJOR FEATURE OF THE SUMMIT SHOULD BE FRANK DISCUSSIONS AMONG THE PRINCIPALS ON A BROAD RANGE OF ISSUES AND THAT THESE SHOULD TAKE PLACE IN AN EXTENDED RESTRICTED SESSION. HOWEVER, THERE WAS DIVERSITY OF OPINION ON WHETHER THERE SHOULD ALSO BE IN ADDITION TO THE RESTRICTED SESSION A PLENARY SESSION WHICH WOULD ENABLE PRINCIPALS TO MAKE MORE GENERAL STATEMENTS AS BASIS FOR BACKGROUNDING THE PRESS. THE MAJORITY, HOWEVER, FAVORED BOTH PLENARY AND RESTRICTED SESSIONS. FURTHERMORE, THERE WERE STRONGLY HELD VIEWS ON WHETHER THE PLENARY SHOULD PRECEDE OR FOLLOW THE RESTRICTED SESSION. ON THE ONE HAND, SOME THOUGHT A PLENARY SHOULD PRECEDE AND "BE GOTTEN OUT OF THE WAY"

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IN THE LATE AFTERNOON OF MAY 29. ON THE OTHER HAND, SOME FELT RECENT MINISTERIAL EXPERIENCE INDICATED THAT THE RESTRICTED SESSION SHOULD COME FIRST, AND A PLENARY SESSION COULD BE HELD IF NECESSARY IN MORE OR LESS RUMP FASHION ON FRIDAY AFTERNOON, THE 30TH, AFTER THE MAJOR BUSINESS WAS CONCLUDED. RECOMMENDATION: I BELIEVE THAT IF IT WERE CLEARLY UNDERSTOOD THAT A PLENARY SESSION (DEVOTED PRIMARILY TO GENERAL STATEMENTS BY THOSE WHO FIND THEM NECESSARY, BUT OF NO MORE

THAN TEN MINUTES EACH IN LENGTH (SEE BELOW) WAS MAINLY FOR PUBLIC AFFAIRS PURPOSES, MOST ALLIES WOULD AGREE THAT IT SHOULD BE HELD ON THE AFTERNOON OF THE 29TH, WITH THE RESTRICTED SESSION.

3. ON AGENDA, THERE WAS STRONG GENERAL AGREEMENT WITH THE FORM OF AGENDA I OUTLINED IN ACCORD WITH REFTEL. NO ONE SPOKE EITHER IN SUPPORT OF OR AGAINST A 15-MINUTE MILITARY BRIEFING.

4. ON CONDUCT OF DISCUSSIONS:

(A) PARTICIPANTS: THERE WAS GENERAL AGREEMENT ON NEED FOR LIMITATION ON THE NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS IN RESTRICTED SESSIONS. HOWEVER, AN APPARENT MAJORITY FAVORED THE LIMITATION AT A MAXIMUM OF SIX RATHER THAN FIVE (I.E. THREE AT THE TABLE AND THREE BEHIND).

RECOMMENDATION: THAT WE CONTINUE TO PUSH FOR FIVE, IF ONLY TO COUNTER THOSE WHO WILL SOON WISH TO SLIP TO SEVEN. HOWEVER, WE SHOULD CONSIDER EVENTUALLY AGREEING TO A TOTAL OF SIX.

(B) TIME LIMIT: PERMREPS AGREED ON THE DESIRABILITY OF TIME LIMITATIONS ON PREPARED STATEMENTS BUT FEARED THEY WOULD BE DIFFICULT TO PUT INTO PRACTICE. THEY GENERALLY FAVORED SUCH LIMITATION AT A MAXIMUM OF TEN MINUTES ON THE UNDERSTANDING THAT SOME PRINCIPALS WOULD SAY MOST OF WHAT THEY WISHED TO SAY IN ONE INTERVENTION WITH LESS ACTIVE PARTICIPATION IN GENERAL DISCUSSION, WHEREAS OTHER MIGHT ESCHEW A GENERAL INTERVENTION AND SAY MOST OF WHAT THEY WISHED TO SAY IN THE GENERAL DISCUSSION PERIOD. NONE DISAGREED WITH LUNS' STATEMENT, MADE TWICE, THAT A TIME LIMITATION SHOULD NOT APPLY TO PRESIDENT FORD AS HIS REMARKS WOULD BE OF THE GREATEST IMPORTANCE.

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5. DECLARATION OR COMMUNIQUE: THE COUNCIL WAS UNANIMOUS THAT THE FINAL STATEMENT SHOULD BE BRIEF, FORCEFUL, AND HAVE EMOTIONAL APPEAL TO THE PUBLIC. THERE WAS A DIFFERENCE OF VIEW ON WHETHER WORK SHOULD BEGIN PROMPTLY OR WHETHER FURTHER GUIDANCE FROM CAPITALS WAS A PREREQUISITE.

6. WHO WILL ATTEND: WITH A FOREWARNING THAT THE RESULTS MUST NOT BE LEAKED TO THE PRESS, SYG LUNS POLLED THE DELEGATIONS WITH THE FOLLOWING RESULTS:

BELGIUM - PRIME MINISTER TINDEMANS; FONMIN VAN ELSLANDE
CANADA - PRIME MINISTER TRUDEAU; SECSTATE EXTAFF MACEACHEN
DENMARK - PRIME MINISTER JORGENSEN; FONMIN ANDERSEN
FRANCE - FONMIN SAUVAGNARGUES; CHANCELLOR SCHMIDT; FONMIN GENSCHER
GREECE - GREEK PERMREP SAID HE COULD NOT YET GIVE AN

INDICATION WHETHER PRIME MINISTER CARAMANLIS WOULD ATTEND.

FONMIN BITSIOS WILL ATTEND.

ICELAND - PRIME MINISTER HALLGRIMSSON; FONMIN AGUSTSSON

ITALY - PRIME MINISTER MORO; FONMIN RUMOR

LUXEMBOURG - PRIMIN/FONMIN THORN

NETHERLANDS - PRIME MINISTER UYLV FONMIN VAN DER STOEL

NORWAY - PRIME MINISTER BRATTELI; FONMIN FRYDENLUND

PORTUGAL - PRESIDENT COSTA GOMES (COMMENT: THIS IS THE ONLY
OTHER HEAD OF STATE BESIDES PRESIDENT FORD WHO IS REPORTED
AS PLANNING TO COME. THE PORTUGUESE PERMREP DID NOT STATE NOR
WAS HE ASKED WHETHER HIS PRIME MINISTER AND FOREIGN MINISTER
WOULD ACCOMPANY.)

TURKEY - PRIME MINISTER DEMIREL; FONMIN CAGLAYANGIL

UK - PRIME MINISTER WILSON; SECSTATE EXTAFF CALLAGHAN.

7. COUNCIL AGREED THAT THE SPC WOULD DISCUSS THESE MATTERS
FURTHER ON FRIDAY, APRIL 25.

8. REQUEST GUIDANCE.BRUCE

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: ALLIANCE, SUMMIT MEETINGS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 24 APR 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: buchandr
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975STATE094688
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: EUR: JHROUSE: LJPLL
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750144-0660
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750420/aaaaascm.tel
Line Count: 191
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN EUR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 4
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 75 STATE 092145
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: buchandr
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 02 JUN 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <02 JUN 2003 by BoyleJA>; APPROVED <08 OCT 2003 by buchandr>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: ORGANIZATION OF NATO SUMMIT
TAGS: PFOR, OCON, NATO, NAC
To: ATHENS
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006